

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 CU-02

AGR-05 DOTE-00 HEW-04 HUD-01 INT-05 CIAE-00 NSAE-00

NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 OIC-02

INR-07 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 FEA-01 AID-05 CEQ-01

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7406

INFO USMISSION USUN NY

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION USEC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

C O N F I D E N T I A L MEXICO 11863

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ECLA, EGEN, PFOR, MX, UN

SUBJECT: ECLA REGIONAL MEETING ON HABITAT MEXICO CITY: LATIN

AMERICA GROUP PAPER ON HUMAN SETTLEMENT GLOBAL
INSTITUTIONS

REFS: A. MEXICO 11765

B. STATE 227384

1. WE HAVE BEEN FORTUNATE IN OBTAINING A BACK-CHANNEL
COPY OF A DOCUMENT, DRAFTED BY THE LATIN AMERICA HABITAT
WORKING GROUP IN MEXICO CITY, WHICH SETS FORTH AN
APPROACH FOR DEALING WITH GLOBAL INSTITUTIONAL ASPECTS
OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS MATTERS. THIS IS THE ONLY TREATMENT
OF THE GLOBAL INSTITUTIONAL QUESTION IN MEXICO CITY.
(SEE REF A PARA 6, AND REF B PARA 1). IT HAS BEEN PREPARED
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FOR SUBMISSION TO THE LATIN AMERICA GROUP COUNTRIES IN

NEW YORK FOR THEIR CONSIDERATION DURING THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY DEBATE ON THIS AGENDA ITEM. THIS PROPOSAL NEVER SURFACED AT ANY OF THE REGULAR CONFERENCE MEETINGS AND WHILE THE LANGUAGE MAY BE MODIFIED, THE TRANSLATED TEXT, SET FORTH AS PARA 2, SHOULD BE CLOSE TO THE FINAL VERSION. (FYI. WE UNDERSTAND JAMAICA AND VENEZUELA HAVE EXPRESSED SOME RESERVATIONS ABOUT THE PAST PERFORMANCE OF THE CENTER FOR HOUSING BUILDING AND PLANNING, AND THE DEGREE TO WHICH WHAT IS BEING PROPOSED IS A QUASI-PERMANENT SOLUTION. FURTHER, THE BRAZILIANS ARE SEEKING TO HAVE SPELLED OUT IN GREATER DETAIL THE SUBORDINATE ROLE OF THE NEW BODIES TO THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS. WE HAVE BEEN ADVISED THAT THESE CONCERNS ARE BEING DEALT WITH WITHIN THE GROUP AND A CONSENSUS SHOULD BE POSSIBLE. END FYI)

2. THE TRANSLATED DRAFT TEXT IS SET FORTH BELOW.

WE BELIEVE IT SHOULD BE CLOSELY HELD:

"DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS TO BE DIRECTED TO THE LATIN AMERICAN GROUP BEFORE THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY CONCERNING CERTAIN GLOBAL LEVEL INSTITUTIONAL ASPECTS REGARDING HUMAN SETTLEMENTS".

REITERATING THE IMPORTANCE THAT COUNTRIES IN THE REGION ATTRIBUTE TO THE DECLARATION OF VANCOUVER ABOUT HUMAN SETTLEMENTS APPROVED BY HABITAT: UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON HUMAN SETTLEMENTS, IN WHICH THE NATIONS OF THE WORLD "EXPRESS THEIR DISSATISFACTION WITH THE EXTREMELY GRAVE SITUATION CONCERNING HUMAN SETTLEMENTS, IN PARTICULAR THAT WHICH PREVAILS IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES",

REITERATING AT THE SAME TIME THE RECOGNITION EXPRESSED IN THE VANCOUVER CONFERENCE THAT "THERE OUGHT TO BE DEVELOPED AND STRENGTHENED COOPERATION BASED ON THE UNITED NATIONS CHARTER, WITH THE OBJECTIVE OF TAKING SOLUTIONS TO THE WORLD PROBLEMS AND TO CREATE AN INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY BASED ON EQUITY, JUSTICE, AND SOLIDARITY",

TAKING ACCOUNT OF THE GENERAL PRINCIPLES AND DIRECTIVES FOR ACTION CONTAINED IN THE DECLARATION OF VANCOUVER THAT OUGHT TO GUIDE THE ACTION OF THE CONFIDENTIAL

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INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY IN HELPING NATIONAL EFFORTS IN CONFRONTING THE PROBLEMS OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS,

REITERATING ALSO THE SENSE WHICH WAS EXPRESSED IN THE VANCOUVER CONVERENCE, THAT, "AS THE RESOURCES OF GOVERNMENTS ARE INSUFFICIENT TO SATISFY THEIR NEEDS, THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY MUST LEND THE NECESSARY FINANCIAL AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, DEVELOP ADEQUATE INSTITUTIONS AND LOOK FOR NEW AND EFFICIENT FORMS TO

ENCOURAGE THEM,

CONSCIOUS OF THE DIFFICULTIES THAT COULD BE
ENCOUNTERED IN THE DECISION-MAKING PROCESS BY THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY WITH RELATION TO THE ALTERNATIVES
THAT IN THIS REGARD WERE PROPOSED IN SECTION 10
OF RESOLUTION #1 OF THE VANCOUVER CONFERENCE.

1. EXPRESSES ITS AGREEMENT WITH SECTIONS 1-9 OF
THE ANNEX OF RESOLUTION 1 OF THE VANCOUVER CONFERENCE,

2. REITERATES THE NECESSITY THAT, REFERRING
TO SECTION 10 OF SAID ANNEX, THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY
IN CONFORMITY WITH THE RECOMMENDATION CONTAINED IN THE
OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH 2 OF RESOLUTION NO. 1 OF THE
VANCOUVER CONFERENCE, OUGHT TO ADOPT IN ITS
31ST SESSION "THE FINAL DECISION" ABOUT THE NATURE AND
INSTITUTIONAL LINK OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL
WORLD ORGANIZATION ABOUT HUMAN SETTLEMENTS.

3. RECOMMENDS:

A) IT BE ADOPTED AS A TEMPORARY MEASURE, THE
STRENGTHENING OF THE UN CENTER FOR HOUSING BUILDING
AND PLANNING, AUGMENTING ITS HUMAN AND FINANCIAL
RESOURCES AND ELEVATING ITS STATUS WITHIN THE
ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS OF THE U.N. THIS
"CENTRE" OUGHT TO BE NAMED IN THE FUTURE: "HABITAT:
CENTER OF THE U.N. FOR HUMAN SETTLEMENTS". AT THE
SAME TIME, IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMPOSITION
OF THE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING BUILDING AND PLANNING
OF THE ECONOMIC AID SOCIAL COUNCIL OF THE U.N. BE
EXPANDED TO CONSIST OF 58 COUNTRY MEMBERS, IN
CONFORMITY WITH THE PRINCIPLES OF EQUITABLE GEOGRAPHIC
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DISTRIBUTIONS, TO BE CALLED IN THE FUTURE
"COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SETTLEMENTS" HOLDING ANNUAL
SESSIONS.

B) THAT TO REENFORCE AND AUGMENT THE RESOURCES
OF THE SO NAMED "HABITAT: CENTER OF THE U.N.
FOR HUMAN SETTLEMENTS", THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY DECIDES THAT
A FIXED PERCENTAGE OF ITS RESOURCES WILL BE ASSIGNED TO
ACTIVITIES WHICH WILL BE CARRIED OUT IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE
DIFFERENT REGIONAL ECONOMIC COMMISSIONS OF THE U.N.
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